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The Real Priorities of the Legislature

Can you imagine making an argument that the State of California should be required to help inmates in prison lower their child support obligations? Or, can you imagine passionately arguing that the state must revise its definition of hair threading to include the "possible incidental trimming of eyebrow hair"?

These are not fictitious examples, they are actual legislative bills that not only were introduced but were passed by the California State Legislature. Unfortunately, these bills are not isolated examples; they embody the priorities of this liberal-dominated Legislature.

News of the Week

Group Home Relocated, Will Not Be in Lancaster

End of Session Summary

that

<u>Teachers Suing Their Union Over Increase in Dues</u> were Designated for Political Purposes

Antelope Valley Air District Honors the

Late Senator William J. "Pete" Knight

Runner Receives Exemplar Award by the Mojave Air Quality Management District

Barstow Twin Casinos Have a Long Way To Go

Aerospace Walk of Honor Will Be Held on Saturday

LA Daily News Editorial: Fraud-Busting

This Legislature's priorities were very clear. The Legislature focused its time on ensuring the passage of legislation that would protect illegal immigrants, coddle convicted criminals, establish gay marriage, and blindly pass any bill benefiting public employee unions regardless of cost or efficiency.

These are just a few of the "gems" the Legislature has prioritized this year:

- AB 855 by Assemblymember Bass (D-Los Angeles) would allow convicted drug felons to receive welfare. The California Legislature is very concerned that these convicted drug felons receive their fair share of our tax dollars and this bill will ensure they receive welfare checks.
- AB 1066 by Assemblymember Horton (D-Inglewood) would require the California Science Center to stop engaging in the odious and shocking practice of ... contracting out for gardening services. It doesn't matter that contracting out may be more cost-effective. State workers, represented by the union bosses of the International Union of Operating Engineers, are far better qualified and deserving of gardening work at the Science Center.
- AB 696 by Assemblymember Chu (D-Monterey Park) would delete the requirement for welfare beneficiaries to be finger-printed for the Food Stamp Program. Basically, this bill will increase the opportunities for fraud in our overly-bloated welfare system.
- AB 1132 by Assemblymember Torrico (D-Newark) would repeal the mandatory 30-day

impoundment of a vehicle that has been seized because its driver was unlicensed. The bill will make it easier for people that do not have a driver's license and should not be on the road an easier way to get their car back. Once again the Legislature is trying to make it easier for illegal immigrants to be here in California.

 AB 391 by Assemblymember Koretz (D-West Hollywood) would force employers to pay unemployment benefits to employees that choose to strike. The legislation would allow striking workers to still receive unemployment checks even though they are employed, thus requiring taxpayers to fund the union's strikes.

Without having Governor Schwarzenegger there to stop all of this outrageous legislation, can you imagine how much worse off California would be?

At the same time that these bills were being passed by the Legislature, over 17,000 sex offenders in California are roaming our communities undetected because they have failed to register with Megan's Law. In fact, the liberals in the Legislature refused to even grant a public policy hearing for Jessica's Law that would once and for all crack down on sexual predators and improve the safety of our communities for our children.

Furthermore, they failed to tackle the problem of our congested roads by failing to pass the Governor's GoCalifornia package. Part of this package would have authorized Cal-Trans to use design-build to speed up the process for building roads thus easing congestion. If the legislation to authorize design-build would have passed this year, building the additional HOV lane on the 405 would have been expedited. Instead partisan politics prevailed and we remain stuck with the same tired system to build our roads.

Even the Governor's Million Solar Roofs initiative that was a bipartisan bill was tampered with by a "poison pill" amendment. The liberals insisted on adding a whole bunch of union requirements that are so costly that there would no longer be any financial incentive to install a solar roof.

It is so important for California that we have a Governor who is dedicated to protecting the taxpayers and enacting reforms with or without this Legislature. We need change in Sacramento and the Legislature needs to focus on real problems that affect Californians every day instead of spending time and energy on issues like hair-threading.

If you would like to contact Senator Runner, please click here: Email - Website

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